



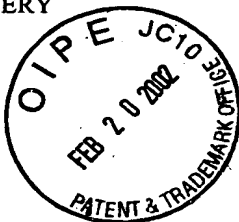
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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/586,964	06/05/2000	Pascale Adolphine Emilienne De Meuter	PM 270736	6581

7590 12/26/2001

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EXAMINER

WONG, LESLIE A

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

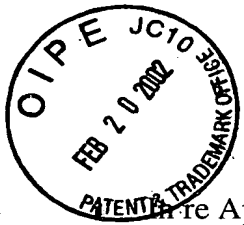
1761

DATE MAILED: 12/26/2001

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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FITCH, EVEN TABIN & FLANNERY - DC

FEB 19 2002
CL# 7590 MT# 71920
ATTY# 1000
DUE 3-15-02
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IC 1700



#11
PATENT

Attorney Docket No. 7393/71920 02-24-02
[Signature]

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re Application of: DE MEUTER et al.

Application No.: 09/586,964

Art Unit: 1761

Filed: June 5, 2000

Examiner: L. Wong

For: SUGAR-FREE HARD COATING
PREPARED FROM LIQUID
MIXTURES OF ERYTHRITOL AND
SORBITOL

February 20, 2002

REQUEST TO RESET RESPONSE DATE

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

RECEIVED
FEB 21 2002
TC 1760

The Examiner issued an Office Action on December 26, 2001, which is almost two months ago. *The irradiated, yellowed, and now brittle Office Action only just arrived in the mail today, February 19, 2002!* It may prove impractical to communicate with an overseas applicant and file an amendment in the truncated response period of about one month instead of the three months set in the Office Action. The delay apparently resulted from a post-September 11, 2001 "homeland security" procedure, soon to be funded in part by the requested 19% increase in patent user fees no less! Nonetheless, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to reset the response date and to confirm this by facsimile to the undersigned counsel of record.

Respectfully submitted,

FITCH, EVEN, TABIN &
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By: [Signature]

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